

PRESS RELEASE

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MAYOR BALLARD ANNOUNCES CITY'S FIRST SUSTAINABLE ALLEYS

PROJECT IS A COLLABORATION OF OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY, DEPARTMENT OF METROPOLITAN

DEVELOPMENT, AND DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard this morning celebrated the construction of the City's first sustainable alleys at an event at the intersection of St. Clair Street and North Jefferson Avenue.

"Implementation of sustainable infrastructure components is a key element to making Indianapolis one of the most sustainable cities in the Midwest," said Mayor Ballard. "Our decision to make unique, sustainable projects such as this a priority contributes to creating a livable city and a cleaner environment for our residents and future generations."

The green infrastructure components of this project, including the rain gardens and pervious concrete alleys, will result in almost 300,000 gallons of rain water being kept out of our sewers annually. This helps to reduce the harmful effects of raw sewage overflows into our streams and rivers.

The City of Indianapolis is working to build partnerships with local community groups and organizations, and the sustainable alleys project is among many resulting from this effort. The Community Development Corporation (CDC) is partnering with the City to ensure the long-term viability of the project through maintenance. When these improvements to infrastructure are made, they strengthen the investments made by the CDCs around the City and ultimately will help attract additional future investments in the City's neighborhoods.

Mayor Ballard created the City's Office of Sustainability in October 2008. The SustainIndy initiative of the Office of Sustainability is focused on making Indianapolis one of the most sustainable, livable cities in the Midwest.